

Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 3, 2012, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

<u>Commissioners Present:</u>	Jessica Andrade, Marsha Mavunkel, Mariah Ortiz, Mica Powers, Greg Ramirez, Roslyn Solomon, Christopher Stearns, Jennifer Yogi
<u>Commissioners by Phone:</u>	Nika Dahlbacka, Andrea Negrete
<u>Commissioners Absent:</u>	Jesse Aspuria, Damien Carter, Joshua Marshall, Merri Ann Osborne, Marty Penner, Michael Plengrat
<u>SOCR Staff Present:</u>	Michael Chin, Felicia Yearwood
<u>Guest Speakers:</u>	Kristen Beifus WA Fair Trade Coalition, SHRC and UWCHR Fred Prockiw - Director of External Organizing, SEIU 6 Zenja Javalera - Union Organizer, SEIU 6
<u>Guests:</u>	Seven members of the public
<u>Call to Order:</u>	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mica Powers
<u>Approval of Minutes:</u>	April 2012 minutes were approved as read
<u>SOCR report:</u>	SOCR has received a grant to work with immigrant and refugee communities and to develop a Sharia Law compliant loan product. A Civil Rights Analyst position is open; an SHRC Commissioner is welcome to sit on the interview panel. The rules for Paid Sick and Save Time will likely be finalized in June.

Speakers: Kristen Beifus [WA Fair Trade Coalition](#)

- Working to develop a sweat free purchasing policy beyond apparel for the City
- Includes collective bargaining, a minimum wage, health insurance
- Similar to UW Designated Supplier Program
- Difficult to monitor items other than apparel
- The sweat free proposal lost in the Washington State legislature by one vote
- California, Pennsylvania, and Maine have sweat free policies
- Jennifer and Greg volunteered to work on this issue with Mariah

Fred Prockiw - Director of External Organizing, [SEIU Local 6](#)
Zenia Javalera - Union Organizer, SEIU Local 6

- Local 6 covers janitors, security guards, home care workers, and public service workers
- Unions represent only 7% of the workforce, down from a high of 33% in the 1970's
- The City's security guards are nonunion
- UDHR Article 23 provides for a right to work and organize, therefore, workers rights are human rights

Committee Reports

Executive

- Chris testified before the U.N. Special Rapporteur for Indigenous Peoples, James Anaya, in Longview Washington. Anaya was interested in the shooting of John T. Williams and will file a report with the U.N.
- Chris met with Dutch students who had questions about indigenous people and police accountability issues
- Human Rights 101 training went well
- The Commission's Facebook page is up – Commissioners are urged to friend the Commission
- Commissioners Chris Stearns, Roz Solomon, Merri Ann Osborne, and Mica Powers met with the Department of Justice and discussed ways to measure disparate use of force

Law and Policy Analysis: Met with Councilmember Harrell; Proposal likely to be presented to full Council in May

Appeals: Andrea, Jennifer, Nika scheduled for May 18th review; Jessica developing flow chart for appeals panel

Human Rights Day 2012 Planning is underway with good representation from human rights organizations

Nominating: Felicia to distribute outreach materials to Commissioners

Bias crimes forum: Making connections with other Commissions and interested individuals
Plan to attend bias crimes form in Bellevue on May 9th

Vendor code of conduct: Will follow up with Kirsten Belfus to tailor a draft policy for the City

Old Business

Issue Identification and Outreach: Mica created a Google document. Greg will use analysis tool to regroup the Rapid Response Team to address emerging issues, e.g., use of drones in the City, elimination of the Free Ride Zone, the Secure Communities program

Right to Food Summit: Councilmember Conlin's staff is interested in the Summit. No firm date set. A meeting is planned for next week. Participants are Stock Box, Seattle Tilth, Seattle University professors Chris will send framework to Commission

International Assn of Official Human Rights Agencies: Application and request for payment have been submitted

Old Business:

Logo and terms of service tabled
Caring Across Generations

- Sample resolution distributed; Jessica and Joshua will work on language

Announcement: Gay Rights as Human Rights – May 15th 6:00 p.m.